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ACTION AF-00

INFO	LOG-00	AMAD-00	A-00	UTED-00	TEDE-00	IO-00	LAB-01
	L-00	OIC-02	PA-00	IRM-00	IAP-00	USIE-00	CRYE-00
	R-00	IIP-00	DRL-02	SAS-00	/005W		
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FM AMEMBASSY HARARE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6673

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 HARARE 004057

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR AF/PD (PATIN, ROBERTSON, HOWARD)

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [OIIP](#) [ZI](#) [KPAQ](#)

SUBJECT: PUBLIC DIPLOMACY AND THE EVOLUTION OF ZIMBABWEAN  
DEMOCRACY

1. SUMMARY: THE WIN OF 57 PARLIAMENTARY SEATS BY THE  
MOVEMENT FOR DEMOCRATIC CHANGE (MDC) IN THE JUNE, 2000  
ELECTIONS MARKS AN IMPORTANT NEW STAGE IN THE EVOLUTION  
OF ZIMBABWEAN DEMOCRACY. AFTER 20 YEARS AS A ONE-PARTY  
STATE, THE RULING ZIMBABWE AFRICAN NATIONAL UNION -  
PATRIOTIC FRONT (ZANU-PF) PARTY WILL NOW NEED TO  
COMPETE WITH A MEANINGFUL OPPOSITION IN THE PARLIAMENT.  
WHILE ZANU-PF STILL CONTROLS A PARLIAMENTARY MAJORITY,  
AND WILL PROBABLY BE ABLE TO PASS THE LEGISLATION IT  
DESIRES (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF CONSTITUTIONAL  
AMENDMENTS -- THOSE REQUIRE A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY) IT  
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MUST NOW COMPETE IN THE MARKETPLACE OF IDEAS AND  
IDEOLOGIES WITH A NEW GENERATION OF POLITICAL THOUGHT.  
THE BIRTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF A VIABLE OPPOSITION IN  
ZIMBABWE WAS A COMPLEX AND LENGTHY PROCESS, AND OWES  
ITS SUCCESS TO THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE. IT  
IS POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, TO RELATE U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLIC  
DIPLOMACY PROGRAMS TO THE GROWTH OF A POLITICAL  
ENVIRONMENT AMENABLE TO DEMOCRATIC PLURALISM IN  
ZIMBABWE. THIS REPORT ATTEMPTS TO OUTLINE HOW USG  
PUBLIC DIPLOMACY PROGRAMS IN ZIMBABWE HELPED TO CREATE  
SOME OF THE CONDITIONS THAT LED TO BROADER PUBLIC  
INVOLVEMENT IN THE NATION'S POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT. END  
SUMMARY.  
ZIMBABWE HAVE THE RIGHT TO THAT CLAIM. WE CAN,  
HOWEVER, TAKE CREDIT FOR HAVING PROVIDED THE PEOPLE OF  
ZIMBABWE WITH IDEAS, EXAMPLES AND SKILLS WHICH  
STRENGTHENED THEIR OWN EXPRESSIONS OF SELF-  
DETERMINATION. OUR PROGRAMS HAVE BEEN NON-PARTISAN,  
PROVIDING INFORMATION AND AMERICAN EXPERIENCES TO  
MEMBERS OF THE RULING PARTY AS WELL AS TO PEOPLE WHO  
HAVE BECOME LEADERS IN THE OPPOSITION AND IN CIVIL  
SOCIETY. THE NON-PARTISAN NATURE OF OUR PROGRAMS  
UNDERScores THE NOTION THAT ONLY THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE  
CAN CLAIM CREDIT FOR POLITICAL PROGRESS IN THEIR  
COUNTRY. IT ALSO SUPPORTS THE NOTION THAT IDEAS AND  
INFORMATION, OUR BASIC COMMODITIES, BREED POLITICAL  
DEVELOPMENT.

13. IN THE 20 YEARS SINCE ZIMBABWE'S INDEPENDENCE, A BROAD  
ARRAY OF PUBLIC DIPLOMACY PROGRAMS HAS CONTRIBUTED TO  
THE DEVELOPMENT OF DEMOCRACY. THE FOLLOWING IS A  
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PARTIAL LISTING OF PROGRAMS THAT HAVE BEEN ESPECIALLY  
PRODUCTIVE. WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT AF/PD ALSO ASK  
FORMER USIS OFFICERS WHO HAVE WORKED IN ZIMBABWE FOR  
ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HISTORY OF PUBLIC  
DIPLOMACY PROGRAMS HERE.

14. THE MAY 2000 EMINENT PERSONS IN CONSULTATION (EPIC)  
PROGRAM -- THIS PROGRAM LED DIRECTLY TO THE PRODUCTION  
OF CRITICAL VOTER EDUCATION MATERIAL IMMEDIATELY BEFORE  
ZIMBABWE'S PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS. THIS AMBASSADORIAL  
INITIATIVE WAS FUNDED BY USAID/ZIMBABWE AND MANAGED BY  
THE EMBASSY'S PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION. DURING ONE OF  
THE PROGRAM'S WORKSHOPS, A FLIER TO EDUCATE ZIMBABWE'S  
VOTERS ABOUT THE SECRECY OF THE BALLOT WAS CONCEIVED  
AND DESIGNED. WITHIN TWO WEEKS, THE LEGAL RESOURCES  
FOUNDATION, A LEADING ZIMBABWEAN NGO, HAD PRODUCED ONE  
MILLION COPIES OF THE FLIER. IT WAS USED AS AN INSERT  
IN ALL OF THE NATION'S NEWSPAPERS AND GIVEN AWAY AT  
SHOPS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. SECRECY OF THE BALLOT

WAS A MAJOR CONCERN FOR MANY VOTERS IN ZIMBABWE AND THE  
TIMELY PRODUCTION OF THE FLIER WAS AN IMPORTANT MEANS  
OF HELPING TO PROMOTE THE FREEST, FAIREST POSSIBLE  
ELECTIONS.

15. CIVITAS PROGRAMS BETWEEN 1997 AND 1999 -- THE MOST  
CONCRETE RESULT OF ZIMBABWEAN INVOLVEMENT IN THE  
CIVITAS INITIATIVE WAS THE DEVELOPMENT AND INCLUSION OF  
CIVIC EDUCATION MATERIALS IN SECONDARY SCHOOL  
CURRICULA. MR. CONRAD KUONA, ONE OF  
THE ZIMBABWEAN  
PARTICIPANTS IN THE MAY 1997 CIVITAS CONFERENCE IN  
PRETORIA, WAS NAMED TO THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION'S  
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COMMISSION ON EDUCATION. USING THIS POSITION,  
MATERIALS AND WISDOM GAINED THROUGH THE CIVITAS  
PROGRAM, AND CONTINUED POST SUPPORT (INCLUDING AN  
ACADEMIC SPECIALIST), MR. KUONA INTEGRATED CIVIC  
EDUCATION MATERIAL INTO THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM. AS A  
DIRECT RESULT OF THE CIVITAS PROGRAM, SECONDARY SCHOOL  
STUDENTS THROUGHOUT ZIMBABWE NOW RECEIVE INSTRUCTION ON  
CITIZENS' BASIC CIVIC RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

16. THE CIVITAS PROGRAM, IN CONJUNCTION WITH AN USIS-  
ADMINISTERED GRANT FROM USAID, RESULTED IN THE 1998  
CREATION OF A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM IN ZIMBABWE.  
THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY THE PUBLICATION IN 1999 OF A BOOK  
ON WHY AND HOW TO ORGANIZE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAMS.

17. IMPOSSIBLE TO PROVE, BUT AVOWED BY ONE ZIMABWEAN  
PARTICIPANT IN THE MAY 1997 PRETORIA CIVITAS CONFERENCE,  
IS THE PROPOSITION THAT ZIMBABWE'S CONSTITUTIONAL  
REFORM BEGAN THERE. VICTOR JUMO, THEN WITH THE  
ZIMBABWEAN NGO "THE LEGAL RESOURCES FOUNDATION," TELLS

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SIPDIS

DEPT FOR AF/PD (PATIN, ROBERTSON, HOWARD)

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OIIP ZI KPAO

SUBJECT: PUBLIC DIPLOMACY AND THE EVOLUTION OF ZIMBABWEAN  
DEMOCRACY

US THAT ZIMBABWEAN PARTICIPANTS IN CIVITAS '97 WERE  
INSPIRED AT THE CONFERENCE BY THEIR SOUTH AFRICAN  
COUNTERPARTS' WORK ON CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM. UPON  
RETURNING TO ZIMBABWE, THE ZIMBABWEAN CIVITASIAN  
CONVOKED A MEETING OF OTHER NGOS. THAT MEETING LED TO  
THE CREATION OF THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTIONAL ASSEMBLY  
(NCA). THE NCA'S WORK TO PROMOTE CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM  
GALVANIZED PUBLIC OPINION, LED TO THE GOVERNMENT'S  
CREATION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION, AND RESULTED  
IN A DRAFT CONSTITUTION IN LATE 1999. POPULAR  
REJECTION OF THAT DRAFT IN THE FEBRUARY 2000 REFERENDUM  
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GENERATED A SENSE OF POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT AMONG  
ZIMBABWEAN VOTERS AND HELPED TO CREATE THE VOTER TURN-  
OUT AND COURAGE WHICH ELECTED AN UNPRECEDENTED  
OPPOSITION BLOCK TO PARLIAMENT IN JUNE 2000.

18. INTERNATIONAL VISITOR GRANTS HAVE PROVIDED FIRST-TIME  
EXPOSURE TO THE U.S. FOR A NUMBER OF ZIMBABWEANS WHO  
HAVE GONE ON TO POSITIONS OF NATIONAL PROMINENCE. THE  
LIST OF FORMER IV GRANTEES READS LIKE A WHO'S WHO OF  
INFLUENTIAL ZIMBABWEANS. ONE OF THE MOST NOTABLE IS  
MORGAN TSVANGIRAI, THE LEADER OF THE NEWLY FORMED  
OPPOSITION PARTY, THE MOVEMENT FOR DEMOCRATIC CHANGE  
(MDC). TSVANGIRAI PARTICIPATED IN A 1989 MULTI-  
REGIONAL IV PROGRAM. OF COURSE, NOT EVERY SINGLE IV  
ALUMNI HAS PROVEN TO BE A DISTINGUISHED DEFENDER OF  
DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND FREE MARKETS, BUT THE  
OVERALL LIST IS OVERWHELMINGLY POSITIVE. THE FOLLOWING  
PARAGRAPHS OFFER A PARTIAL LISTING OF PROMINENT IV  
ALUMNI.

19. MEDIA: "DAILY NEWS" (INDEPENDENT, PRO-OPPOSITION)

EDITOR IN CHIEF GEOFF NYAROTA; "DAILY NEWS" NEWS EDITOR WILLIAM BANGO (1987); "DAILY NEWS" DEPUTY EDITOR BILL SAIDI (1993); "STANDARD" (INDEPENDENT, PRO-OPPOSITION) EDITOR IN CHIEF CLIVE WILSON; ZIANA (ZIMBABWE ASSOCIATED NEWS AGENCY) EDITOR IN CHIEF WILF MBANGA (1981); JOY TV DIRECTOR ISHMAEL KADUNGURE (1983); "HERALD" (GOVERNMENT-OWNED DAILY) EDITOR IN CHIEF BORNWELL CHAKAODZA (1998); "CHRONICLE" (GOVERNMENT-OWNED DAILY IN BULAWAYO) EDITOR IN CHIEF STEPHEN MPOFU (1990); "FINANCIAL GAZETTE" (INDEPENDENT, PRO-OPPOSITION WEEKLY) EDITOR IN CHIEF TREVOR NCUBE (1990); UNCLASSIFIED

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"STANDARD" (INDEPENDENT, PRO-OPPOSITION WEEKLY) EDITOR IN CHIEF MARK CHAVUNDUKA.

110. JUDICIARY: SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE ANTHONY GUBBAY (1990); HIGH COURT JUDGE GODFREY CHIDYAUZIKU (1984); HIGH COURT JUDGE PADDINGTON GARWE (1987); HIGH COURT JUDGE FERGUS BLACKIE (1992); HIGH COURT JUDGE YUNUS OMERJEE (1995); HIGH COURT JUDGE WILSON SANDURA (1996).

111. GOVERNMENT: NEW ZANU-PF MINISTER OF FINANCE NKOSANA MOYO (EISENHOWER FELLOW IN 1995); NEW ZANU-PF MINISTER OF JUSTICE PATRICK CHINAMASA (1983); NEW ZANU-PF MI NISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS JOHN NKOMO (1986); NEW ZANU-PF MINISTER OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT, GENDER AND EMPLOYMENT CREATION BORDER GEZI (1992); NEW ZANU-PF GOVERNOR OF MIDLANDS PROVINCE CEPHAS MSIPA (1982); CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENT AUSTIN ZVOMA (1983); NEW MDC MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT MIKE AURET (1986); NEW MDC MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT DAVID COLTART (1988); NATIONAL COMMISSIONER OF POLICE AUGUSTINE CHIHURI (1995); NEW MDC MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT TENDAI BITI (1999).

112. ACADEMICS: DR. RUKUDZO MURAPA (VICE CHANCELLOR OF AFRICA UNIVERSITY); UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE HEAD LIBRARIAN STANISLAUS MADE (1985).

113. BUSINESS: BARCLAY'S BANK MANAGING DIRECTOR ISAAC TAKAWIRA (1989); COMMERCIAL FARMERS' UNION DIRECTOR DAVID HASLUCK (1980); CEO OF ECONET CELLULAR PHONE SYSTEM STRIVE MASIIWA (1992). UNCLASSIFIED

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114. CIVIL SOCIETY: ZIMBABWEAN COORDINATOR FOR THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN INSTITUTE DOREEN SIBANDA (1981); DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL GALLERY PROF. GEORGE KAHARI (1981); DIRECTOR OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS DOCUMENTATION AND RESEARCH TRUST OF SOUTHERN AFRICA PHILIAT MATSHEZA (1996); NATIONAL COORDINATOR OF THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTIONAL ASSEMBLY ISAAC MAPHOSA (1999).

115. LOOKING AHEAD, WE BELIEVE THAT PUBLIC DIPLOMACY PROGRAMS IN THE NEXT TWO OR THREE YEARS CAN MAKE THE MOST SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGH SUPPORT FOR RULE OF LAW (FOCUS ON STRENGTHENING THE JUDICIARY), SUPPORT FOR CIVIL SOCIETY (FOCUS ON CIVIC AND HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION), AND SUPPORT FOR THE INDEPENDENT MEDIA (FOCUS ON LIBERALIZATION OF BROADCAST MEDIA).

116. WE WILL BE HAPPY TO WORK FURTHER WITH AF/PD AND OTHERS TO REFINE AND FLESH-OUT THE HISTORY OF PD PROGRAMS IN ZIMBABWE AND THEIR CUMULATIVE EFFECT ON THIS NATION'S

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DEVELOPMENT.

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